

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(Currently amended)** A method for orienting a bridge in position relative to a dental implant with the aid of a spacer member which is brought into cooperation with dental implant, with a fastening member arranged in the bridge, the method comprising:

coupling a first sleeve-shaped part included in the spacer member to the dental implant;

coupling a second sleeve-shaped part included in the spacer member to a fastening member in the bridge, the second sleeve-shaped part having a width that is less than a width of the first sleeve-shaped part;

assembling the first and second sleeve-shaped parts together when the bridge is anchored to the dental implant; and

upon separation of the bridge from the dental implant, separating the first and second sleeve-shaped parts so that the first sleeve-shaped part maintains its position on the dental implant and the second sleeve-shaped part follows along with the bridge or comprises a free part.

2. **(Currently Amended)** An arrangement for orienting a bridge in position relative to a dental implant, the arrangement comprising:

a spacer member configured to cooperate with the dental implant to provide position orientation through cooperation with fastening members arranged in the bridge, wherein the spacer member comprises first and second sleeve-shaped parts, wherein the first sleeve-shaped part cooperates with the dental implant and the second sleeve-shaped part is configured such that the second sleeve-part can be joined to and separated from the first sleeve-shaped part ~~and has,~~ the second sleeve-shaped part having a portion which can cooperate with a fastening member, the portion of the second sleeve-shaped part having a width that is less than a width of the first sleeve-shaped part, and wherein the first sleeve-shaped part has a longitudinal extent which is related to the installation situation and is preferably shortened in relation to the second sleeve-shaped part.

3. **(Currently Amended)** The arrangement as claimed in claim 2, wherein the first sleeve-shaped part has a length substantially corresponding to a thickness of a soft tissue or a gum on the jaw bone, in which the respective dental implant is applied.

4. **(Currently Amended)** The arrangement as claimed in claim [[1]] 2, wherein the first sleeve-shaped part can be arranged in relation to and can cooperate with fibers of the gingiva.

5. **(Currently Amended)** The arrangement as in claim [[1]] 2, wherein the first sleeve-shaped part cooperates with the dental implant via an upper flange surface on the dental implant.

6. **(Currently Amended)** The arrangement as in claim [[1]] 2, wherein the second sleeve-shaped part has a lower sleeve-shaped portion which can be engaged on an upper portion of the first sleeve-shaped part.

7. **(Currently Amended)** The arrangement as claim [[1]] 2, wherein the second sleeve-shaped part has a first part which can cooperate with the first sleeve-shaped part, and a second part which is narrower in relation to the first part and which supports the portion cooperating with the fastening member.

8. **(Previously Presented)** The arrangement as in claim 7, wherein the first and second upper parts merge on the outside via an inclined outer surface which adjoins the top surface of the soft tissue or gum.

9. **(Previously Presented)** The arrangement as in claim 8, wherein the narrowed part is included in a narrowed bridge construction.

10. **(Previously Presented)** The arrangement as in claim 9, wherein the first sleeve-shaped part for the respective implant can be anchored to the implant, and the first and second parts can be mutually guided in relation to one another by an internal screw with a head which extends, in the assembled state, substantially level with the inclined upper surface.

11. **(New)** The arrangement as in claim 2, wherein the width of the second sleeve-shaped part is a diameter that is less than a diameter of the first sleeve-shaped part.

12. **(New)** The arrangement as in claim 2, wherein the width of the second sleeve-shaped part is approximately 70% of the width of the first sleeve-shaped part.

13. **(New)** The arrangement as in claim 2, wherein the first sleeve-shaped part comprises a plurality of protrusions along an outer surface thereof for engaging fastening members of a bridge.